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Thursday, November 23 - Wednesday, November 29, 2017



Pictures for Pudsey raise hundreds for children

Page 8







'Budget to keep council tax low', but what do you think?

To advertise call Basingstoke Observer on 01256 952180

By Eva Astreinidou

IT'S your turn to have your say on the proposed increases to council tax and parking charges.

Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council has put forward a budget which it says will help maintain highquality services, generate income and help support vulnerable people.

And it has now launched a consultation on the plans ahead of a decisionmaking meeting on February 6.

Cabinet member for finance, service delivery and improvement Robert Tate has explained the borough's plans.

He said: "This is a budget that invests in the people, the community and businesses.

"The budget for the coming year continues to makes us a low council tax borough."

But Liberal Democrat councillor Michael Bound said the proposals show 'complacency and missed opportunities'.

He said: "Basingstoke and Deane could be a powerhouse of innovation, leading the way in investing in our community, providing low cost, modern prefab housing and low cheap, clean energy, [and] services for young people.

"The primary purpose of councils is to provide services to their residents; it is residents who lose out through worsening services."

The borough's council tax share is

proposed to increase by £5 per year for the average household.

It says it currently has the lowest proportion in Hampshire by £47, lower than the average district in the county – but it says it has one of the highest spends per head of districts in England and the highest of districts in Hampshire.

Under the plans, one hour free parking in Basingstoke town centre is set to continue but there will be an increase to parking charges in other council-run car parks.

Cllr Tate added: "The increases in parking charges are still competitive with other local authorities.

"We are trying to ensure we don't put increases on things that can't sustain them – money from parking will be reinvested and we have worked to ensure the charges will not damage local businesses and the community."

Other proposals in the budget include keeping the funding of weekly rubbish bin collections, as well as reinvesting in housing regeneration initiatives to help tackle homelessness, provide grant support for Buckskin flooding alleviation and money for disabled facility grants.

The council says £11.2 million in savings has been made over the last nine years without cutting services but by running them more efficiently.

To take part in the consultation before 5pm on December 15, visit www.basingstoke.gov.uk/budget2018.



Santa Claus's pressing engagement

Santa's elves and Peter Pan helped him to press the button and officially launch Christmas in Basingstoke last week. See page 3 for more



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'PrintWeek Newspaper Printer of the Year 2016



Plans to improve parking provision across borough

By Eva Astreinidou

PLANNING applications with limited parking provision may be refused under proposals up for discussion.

A draft parking standards document has been drawn up to avoid problems of inadequate or poorly designed parking which have been experienced in the past.

It is hoped the document will be used by developers, but will also be a basis for determining whether future planning applications can go ahead or not.

The report reads: "The provi-

sion of parking and its location influences the choices that people make when deciding where to live, when travelling and on the appearance and form of a new development."

It also states that proposals with reduced parking provision may be 'unacceptable' when considered by the planning committee if the council considers this would result in pressure on existing streets.

The measures include a strategy to eliminate on-street parking, as well as improvements to the layout, look, and provision of car parking spaces.

They propose landscaping to improve the appearance of parking areas while also aiming to ensure garage spaces in new builds are not used for storage.

The document also puts an emphasis on provision for electric cars, in an aim to improve air quality.

The report lists several proposals for cyclists including a 'tapping rail' to warn the visually impaired of the approach of a cyclist, as well as well-lit and secure areas for long-stay cycle parking located away from bin stores and smoking shelters.

The draft document was

prepared by Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council to support the delivery of the Local Plan 2011-2029.

It takes into account research into car ownership levels, which average at least 1.45 cars per household - with forecasts to 2029 showing an increase due to population growth.

The new measures will be discussed by the borough council ahead of a six-week consultation in January.

To view the proposals, go to https://www.basingstoke.gov. uk/environment-and-planning.

Inspiring women to take on more senior roles

BASINGSTOKE'S MP helped launch a series of events encouraging more women into senior roles within the police.

Maria Miller welcomed Hampshire's Chief Constable Olivia Pinkney, one of four women in the country who hold the senior police role, to launch a series of Inspiring Women events.

At the event in Basingstoke, the Chief Constable spoke about her journey through the ranks and talked about the challenges of encouraging more women into senior roles within the police.

Ms Miller said: "I am look-

ing forward to welcoming other guest speakers and am certain that the Inspiring Women series will encourage women to apply for roles in areas which they have not previously considered."

The event was hosted by Basingstoke-based company ENI Engineering.

A range of professionals from Basingstoke businesses and charities attended and took part in a Q&A covering a wide range of topics including flexible working, representation of women on boards and under representation of women in key positions.



Ann Davies, head of the family department at solicitors Lamb Brooks; Maria Miller MP; Chief Constable Olivia Pinkney; Kathy Slack, executive director of the M3 Local Enterprise Partnership and Catherine Waters-Clark, founder of Charity Inspero

Man had phones and wallet stolen as he walked through park

THIEVES stole two phones and a wallet from a man as Basingstoke.

The 23-year-old was walking in Glebe Gardens on November 13 at around 10pm when he was

approached by two men.

One of the men asked if he he walked through a park in had a lighter. He lit the men's cigarettes but as he turned to walk away he was grabbed from behind.

The men searched his pock-

ets and ran off in the direction of St Michael's Church after taking two iPhone 7s and a wallet containing bank cards and slim build. a small amount of cash.

The first man is white, more than 6ft tall, of medium build

and with a tanned complexion. The second man is black, around 5ft 10ins tall and of

Both men wore dark clothing, gloves and hooded tops. If you can help, call 101.

News Bites

Priest jailed for child porn images

A FORMER priest previously jailed for child pornography offences has been jailed again after 341 indecent images were found.

Michael Patrick O'Kelly, of Gainsborough Road, Basingstoke was sentenced at Winchester Crown Court on November 10 to 15 months in prison after pleading guilty to possessing indecent images of children at an earlier hearing.

The 62-year-old, who was previously Reading's most senior Catholic priest, was convicted of a child pornography offence in March 2002 and sentenced to nine months.

He was also put on the sex offenders' register, which allowed police to carry out a random spot search on December 1, 2016, during which O'Kelly surrendered a mobile phone.

The court heard the phone contained 62 category A images - the worst classification - 70 category B and 209 category C images of children.

Grooming arrest

A MAN has been arrested and bailed until early next month on suspicion of attempting to meet a child for sexual grooming.

The 27-year-old from Basingstoke, was arrested after an undercover operation by an online vigilante group who found out he was planning to meet a 13-year-old girl.

Police were called to Penge Road, Croydon on November 10, where the man had arranged to meet the girl.

When he arrived there was no child for the man to meet. Members of the group who

had been in contact with the man over the internet had brought him to the location.

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Ready to face winter weather

By Eva Astreinidou

WINTER teams and new state-ofthe-art vehicles carrying tonnes of salt are ready to hit the road to keep Hampshire moving during cold and icy weather.

Hampshire Highways will be keeping the county's roads free of ice and snow with a new fleet of salting vehicles that include efficient engines, snow ploughs, sat nav guidance, and a record of which roads have been

salted and when.

Highways teams use localised weather forecasting and roadside weather sensors around the county, monitoring conditions from October through to April to make decisions about the best time to salt the roads. where to salt and how much salt to

Roads are then treated with salt before temperatures drop to freezing to try to stop frost and ice forming.

Highways crews will always salt

Hampshire's 'priority one' routes

These carry the majority of Hampshire's traffic, and include A roads, some B roads, major bus routes, roads to hospitals and other key emergency hubs.

During periods of prolonged severe weather, priority two routes, which include remaining B roads and single access roads to villages, may also be treated.

Councillor Rob Humby, executive

member for environment and transport at Hampshire County Council, said: "We've a full stock of salt for the winter, with 20,000 tonnes of salt ready in barns which are strategically placed across Hampshire."

During severe weather, residents can also help out by keeping pavements and smaller roads clear of ice by using the salt provided in the blue or yellow community salt bins, of which there are 3,700 across Hampshire.

News Bites

Robbery attempt

A 49-year-old woman was threatened and pushed by two men in an attempted robbery in Basingstoke.

The victim was walking beside a block of garages to the rear of Portsmouth Walk on November 17 when the two men approached her.

One pressed an unknown object against her back and demanded cash and valuables.

She had none on her and they then demanded her phone, which she also didn't have.

They then pushed her from behind and made off.

The man who made the demands had what appeared to be an eastern European accent and was dressed in all black including a beanie hat. He was 5ft 9ins tall and had dark hair.

The second man, who didn't speak, also wore black including a black baseball cap.

He had olive skin and was aged in his early 20s, around 5ft 8ins tall and slim.

If you can help, call 101.

Motorway closure

A HAMPSHIRE motorway will be closed over certain nights while road works are carried out.

The M3 will be closed overnight until tomorrow [November 24], and then again from Monday until Wednesday next week.

Junction 10 to 11 Winchester will be closed between 9pm and 6am, with both north and south bound carriageways closed to allow for works to road signage in the area.

Town welcomes Christmas

FIREWORKS lit up the wintery night sky to welcome the festive season in Basingstoke.

Santa, radio stars, Peter Pan, and the cast of Wonderful West End were all at Festival Place to celebrate the coming of Christmas last Thursday.

The ever-popular Christmas Light switch-on was hosted by Matt and Michelle from Heart Breakfast.

The evening featured live entertainment from The Halo Glow Show an explosive visual stage act featuring virtuoso circus artists, as well as the Wonderful West End cast performing songs from The Lion King, plus the stars of the Anvil's production of Peter Pan.

Santa and his elves carried out the ceremonial pushing of the 'on' button to light up Festival Place, with visitors enjoying a firework display and the centre's new Christmas decorations.





School meal price set to rise by 15p a day

THE price of freshly-cooked school meals will increase by 15p from the start of the next school

Proposals to increase the price of two-course school meals were considered by Hampshire County Council earlier this month.

The executive lead member of children's services, Councillor Keith Mans, said that a price per meal increase of 15p will take effect from September 2018, taking the cost to £2.30 per day.

Speaking ahead of the decision, he said: "I am keen that school meals remain affordable but there is a balance to be struck between being able to continue to maintain such prices and meeting the increasing and unavoidable costs associated with providing those meals."

The increase brings the price per meal in line with those charged by other local authorities, as well as the Department for Education's funding for Universal

Infant Free School Meals, which is set at £2.30.

Over the last school year, HC3S, the county council's catering business, cooked and served more than 14 million meals in Hampshire's schools.

The service sources the ingredients for school meals from local suppliers to create healthy menus without additives, as well as nut-free food that also meets the requirements of medically proven food allergies.

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Rise in reported historical child sex abuse cases

THE number of reported sex offences involving non-recent abuse against children have increased by 131 per cent in Hampshire over the last four years.

Children's charity NSPCC, which obtained the figures under a Freedom of Information request, is now urging survivors of child sexual abuse to break the silence and speak out.

According to the charity, the number of recorded offences involving non-recent sexual abuse – where the offence is alleged to have occurred more than a year before it was reported to police – has increased each year, from 377 in 2013/14 to 869 in 2016/17.

In one case, a woman in her 40s was sexually abused and raped by her biological father at a very young age.

She went to the police to report her father when she was 25, and said the conviction helped her recover, but added: "I have had breakdowns, have depressive episodes and I've attempted suicide as an adult.

"But I am determined and I've got dreams and ambitions."

Peter Wanless, chief executive of the NSPCC, said: "It doesn't matter whether the sexual abuse happened a year ago or 50 years ago, it is never too late to report it."

Nationally, there were more than 60,000 cases of non-recent sexual abuse against children recorded over the last four years.

The charity believes the rise may partly be down to high-profile abuse cases as well as the football abuse scandal.

Photography gives army veteran a new life focus

By Eva Astreinidou

AN army veteran who suffered from post-traumatic stress disorder is turning his life around with a lens.

Kevin Pearson from Basingstoke has found a new passion for photography that is helping him to regain his purpose in life.

He admits PTSD is one of the 'hardest things to battle with' but said that photography has opened different doors for him.

The 52-year-old former soldier joined the British Army in 1980, following in the footsteps of his granddad, dad, brother and sister.

He then served in the Scots Guards for 16 years and was deployed to Hong Kong, Germany, Scotland and Northern Ireland.

But after serving with the Army Dog unit in Northern Ireland he was diagnosed with PTSD.

Speaking about the harrowing experience, he said: "I've lost friends and pushed my family away because others can't continue to be strong for me. It's been one of the hardest things to battle with and I'm sorry to say but it sometimes wins."

Mr Pearson had no qualifications when he left school, but was keen to develop his interest for photography through a course offered by the charity Help for Heroes.

He said: "Photography gets me out



Kevin Pearson pictured in 1989 aged 24

of the house, and it gets me going places that I wouldn't usually go due to my PTSD.

"I am proud of what I've done – I've stood at palaces and castles around the world and represented my regiment and the army.

"My illness has affected my life but it's led my down a new path and opened different doors for me."

Mr Pearson now hopes to continue with his photography and is determined to take his passion further afield and visit Africa on a Safari trip to take photos of animals in the wild.



Some of Kevin's wildlife photography



News Bites

Join FA campaign

HAMPSHIRE FA are looking to find equality champions to represent their community in a countrywide campaign.

The champions will join the FA's Inclusion Advisory Group to represent people aged 55 and over, young people, women, black and minority ethnic groups, people with disabilities and the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender communities.

The champions will provide advice, challenge the work of the Hampshire FA and ensure the community receives fair and accessible football opportunities and services.

Theft from Costa

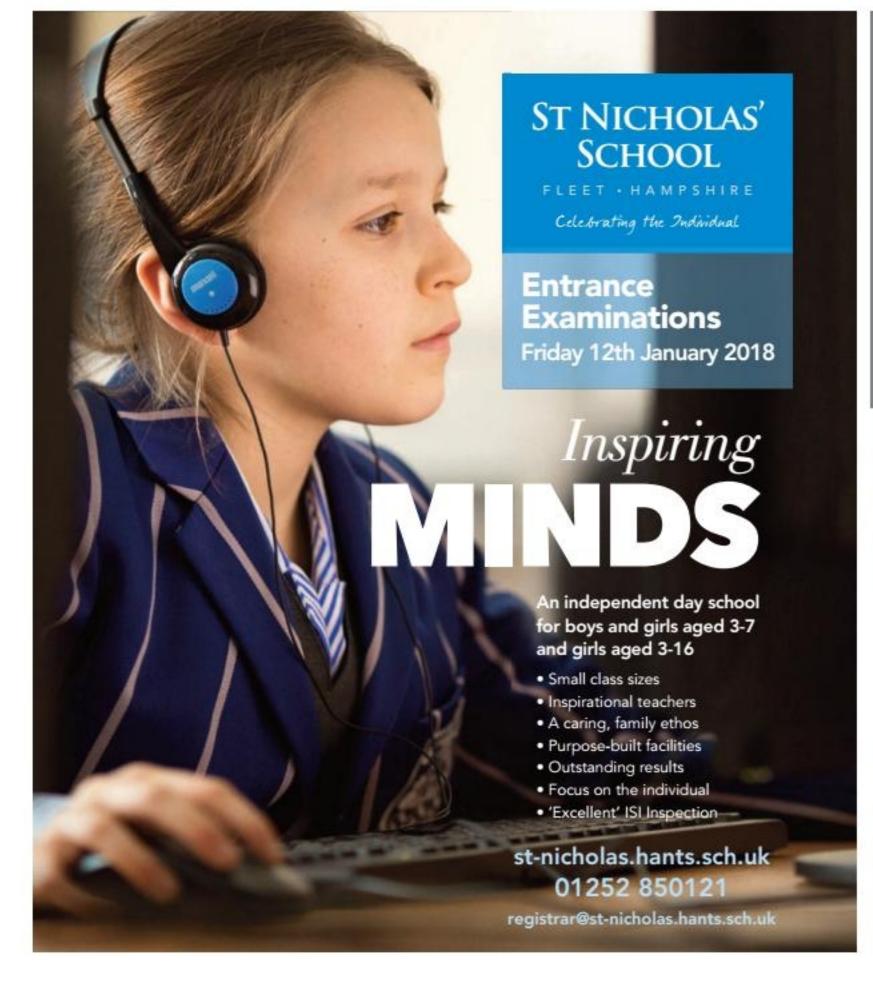
THIEVES broke into Costa Coffee in Hartley Wintney and stole the safe.



Police are investigating a burglary at the shop in High Street on November 14 between 1.40am and 2am.

Entry was gained to the front of the store and a safe was stolen from inside.

Anyone with information should call 101, quoting 44170442989.





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Campaign aims to cut anti-social behaviour

By Eva Astreinidou

RESIDENTS and shop owners in Buckskin are doing their best to help improve the town and tackle antisocial behaviour.

Local action group, the 4B Community Planning Group, has worked alongside Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council in a bid to keep the area a safe and pleasant place to work and visit through a Safer Shops campaign.

Thanks to the new scheme, two signs have now been put up in the vicinity of businesses in the town centre.

The signs ask people not to ride bikes, scooters or skateboards around the shops; not to play ball games or loiter around the area; not to cause alarm, distress or harassment to others; only to use designated play and recreation areas and to use the provided litter bins.

Cabinet member for communities and community safety Cllr Simon Bound said: "The first Safer Shops scheme was very successful in reducing the number of incidents of antisocial behaviour.

"Hopefully the new scheme will have a similar effect, reminding people to respect the area and help to create a safe and pleasant atmosphere for businesses, shoppers and residents alike."



The launch of the Safer Shops campaign with members of the council, retailers, representatives from 4B Community Planning Group and community patrol officers

In addition to the businesses, the residents living in the immediate vicinity of the shops were also consulted about the scheme and at least 81 per cent supported the proposed signs.

The new campaign is a direct result of the work of the 4B group, who gave their backing to setting up Safer Shops schemes in Buckskin in their action plan.

It follows the successful pilot of the Safer Shops scheme at the town's Burnaby shops in December 2015.

Earlier this month, a community

plan that aims to 'empower' the area was finalised.

A collaboration between residents, the 4B action group and the borough council, the Buckskin Ward community plan identified ways to improve the area.

Cllr Simon Bound, the member for communities, said: "It's clear that residents who live in Buckskin love the area, and this plan highlights the positive feedback about access to green spaces, great local shops and the feeling of living in a friendly and supportive community."

Observer

To advertise in the



Basingstoke Hospital Male Voice Choir sang for Ark

Choirs in fine voice for fundraiser

HOSPITAL staff showcased their musical prowess raising more than £760 for charity.

The Basingstoke Hospital and Hart male voice choirs, brought the house down as they performed at All Saints' Church, Basingstoke last week.

All proceeds from the concert went to Basingstoke-based Ark Cancer Centre charity which is raising £5million for a local cancer treatment centre, earmarked for land near the M3.

Mark Jones, director of fundraising and communications at Ark Cancer Centre charity, thanked both choirs for their wonderful support and updated the audience on the progress of the charity's fundraising appeal, which has now topped £1.6m.

Mark said: "Ark is grateful to everyone who was involved in organising this splendid and memorable concert. The vocal power and great performance of the male voice choirs, individually and collectively, was a joy to listen to."

He also thanked all who attended and donated to the cause.

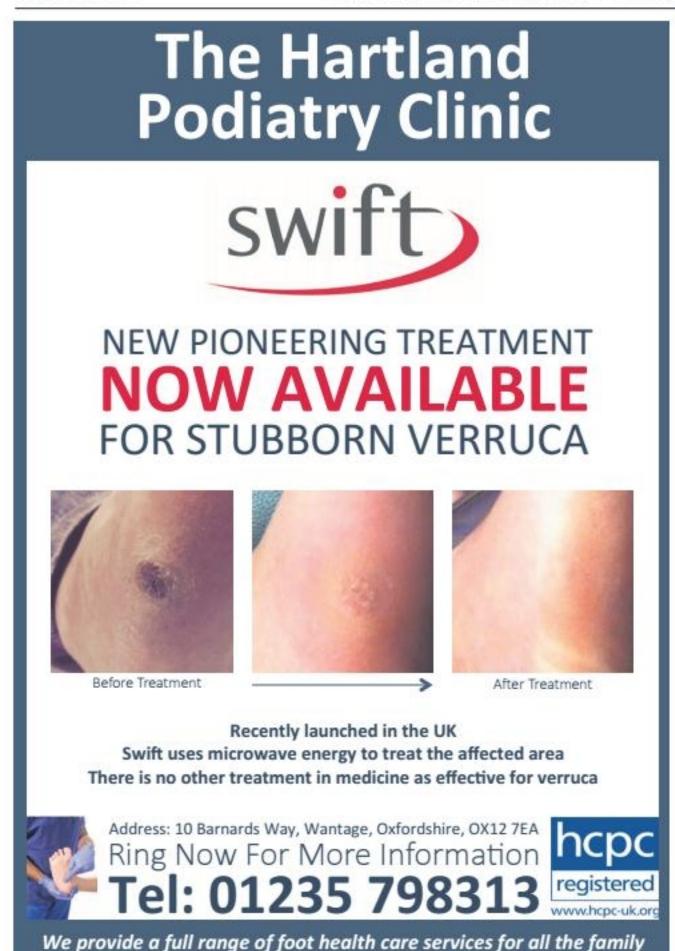
Hark, it's the mayor's carol concert

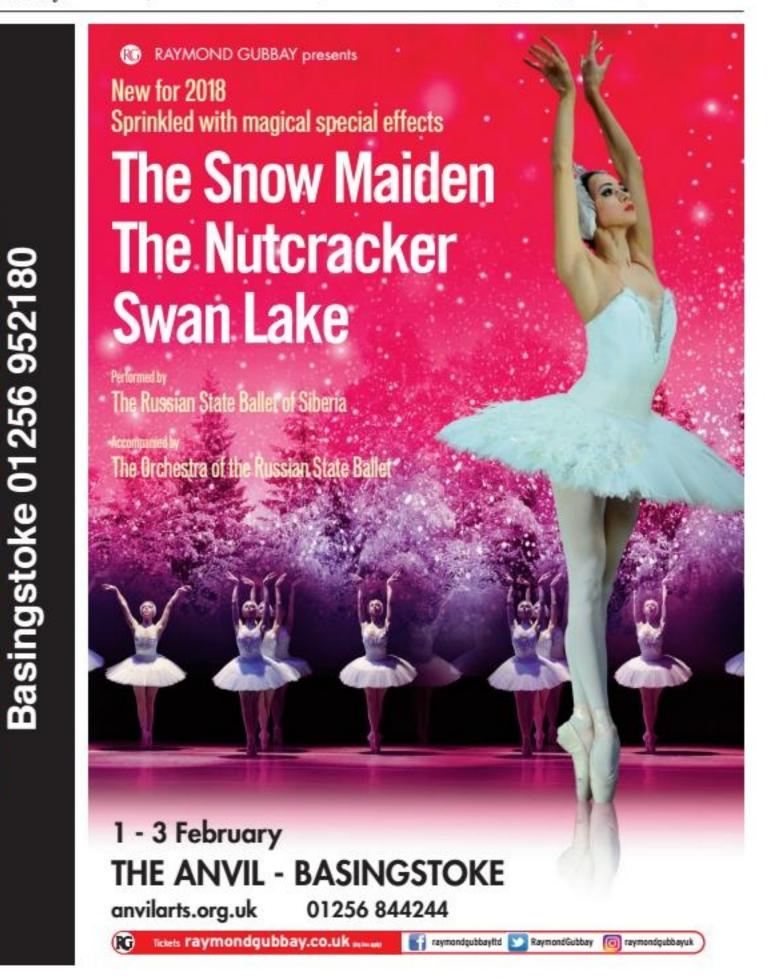
COME all ye faithful to the Mayor's carol concert next month.

This year's carol service will be held by Basingstoke and Deane Mayor Cllr Paul Frankum and Mayoress Cllr Jane Frankum at St Michael's Church on December 9 at 7pm.

The free event will feature performances from Basingstoke Festival of Choirs and Merton Junior School choir, led by the Reverend Arthur Botham, the Mayor's Chaplain. There will also be readings from community groups, before the Mayor shares his Christmas message. Festive refreshments available after the service.

For more information visit www. basingstoke.gov.uk/mayor.





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DJ spins back time to raise charity cash

A 56-year-old DJ who has a debilitating condition is getting back on the decks and hopes to smash a fundraising target for charity.

Nick Hart, from Basingstoke, will be one of the DJs at the annual event at the Red, White and Blue charity Christmas disco at Soldiers Return on December 1.

The annual event is being hosted by Parkinson's UK, with all proceeds being donated to the charity.

Nick, who has Parkinson's, is hoping the event can raise £1,000, smashing last year's total of £600.

He said: "We're hoping to raise even more this year to support research into a cure for this debilitating condition."

Donations for entry will be on the door and there will also be the chance to win prizes in the raffle.

Paul Jackson-Clark, director of fundraising at Parkinson's UK, said: "I'd like to wish Nick and all the other DJs the very best of luck with the Christmas party, and I hope that as many local people as possible will attend and show their support.

"The funds raised by RWB will allow Parkinson's UK to continue with its vital research work to find a cure and improve the lives of the 127,000 people living in the UK who are affected by Parkinson's."



Nick Hart is taking to the decks to help fight Parkinson's which he

Harry draws on skill to help Pudsey funds





Young Harry Pedley with just two of the drawings he has done for Children In Need

By Eva Astreinidou

A SIX-YEAR-OLD boy decided he would help other children by creating drawings and selling them to raise money for a good cause.

Young Harry Pedley from Tadley has raised £433 (as we went to press) for Children in Need, through his artwork.

Speaking about how the Pictures for Pudsey idea came about, his father Lee Pedley said: "Harry came home from school a few weeks ago and randomly said I want to help other children and raise some money for Children in Need as his school had been talking about it.

"My wife asked Harry what he wanted to do and he said can I do art? And if people want a picture I can make them one?"

He said he and his wife Donna agreed they would help him in his fundraising idea.

He added: "We are so proud of our son Harry for coming up with this idea. We [now] really [want] to get the word out for him especially with him only being six."

On his fundraising page, people have praised Harry for his lovely idea. Zara Stacey commented: "Brilliant work Harry. What a very kind little boy you are."

Christine McGarvie said: "I think what you are doing is amazing. Keep up the good work. I'm sure you are very busy drawing pictures already so I would just like to donate. Well done."

The money raised for Children in Need goes to a variety of charities across the UK including hospices, support groups for disabled and disadvantaged children, children's homes and family projects.

The charity which started in 1980 raised a record-breaking £50million during the event on Friday last week.

For drawing requests, visit https://www.facebook.com/Picturesforpudsey/.

To donate, visit www.justgiving. com/picturesforpudsey.

News Bites

Business mingling

WANT to test your business acumen and enjoy some networking? Entrepreneurs and businesssavvy people are invited to an event at Basing View next Thurs-

day from 6pm to 8pm.

The event, Let's do Bizness, will be held at Belvedere House in Basingstoke.

For more information and to register, visit https://tinyurl.com/ y/qggqpj.

Council tax fraud

RESIDENTS are urged to check if they're entitled to a discount on their council tax bill before a fraud review begins.

Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council is asking residents to check if they can claim single person discount on their bill until December 3.

The council is set to step up efforts to identify fraudulent claims but has introduced the amnesty period before the review begins.

Claimants who are not entitled to receive single person discount and fail to declare any personal changes by the given date will face further action.

For more information, contact the council tax team by sending an email with the subject 'SPD Amnesty' to localtax@basingstoke.gov.uk or by calling 01256 844844 before the amnesty date of December 3.



Gifts galore, traditional Hog Roast, and Christmas Trees. Christmas gift wrapping from 18th Dec.

2nd Dec Acro Chaps

The cheeky chappies are back for some acrobatic fun. Plus Carols with the Salvation Army.

9th Dec Ice People Walkabout

The mesmerising art of crystal ball juggling, a touch of winter magic. Plus Basingstoke Concert Band playing Carols.

16th Dec Elfish Pressies

Be wooed by these hilarious look-a-likes.

Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year to all our visitors.

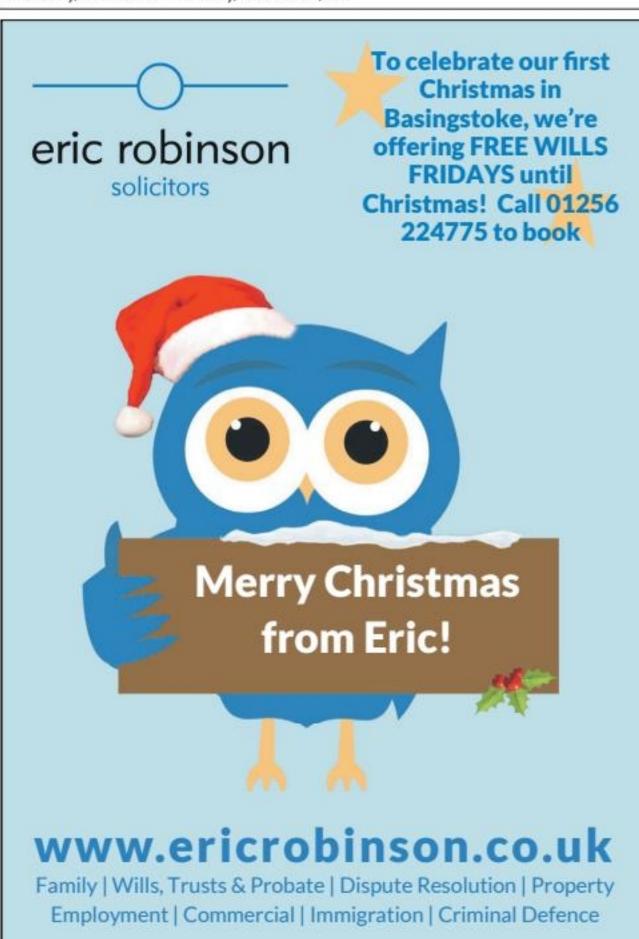


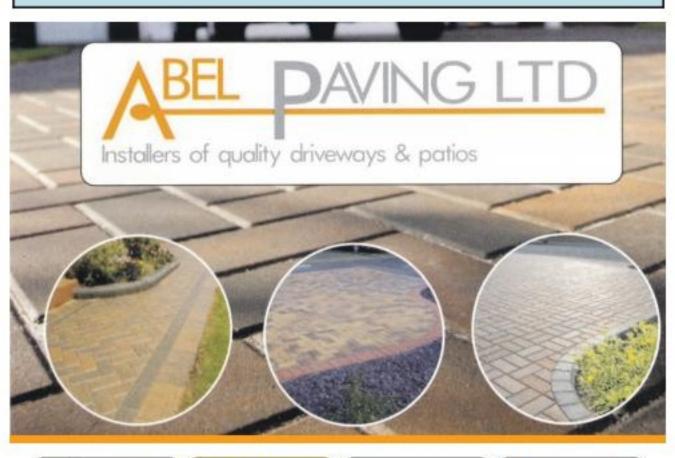
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Lively discussion as MP meets pupils

BASINGSTOKE'S MP toured two college sites to discuss the progress and plans for the future after the two schools joined forces.

Maria Miller visited the Cranbourne Business and Enterprise College across two of its sites last week as part of her programme of visits to Basingstoke schools.

She first paid a visit to the school's main site at Wessex Close, meeting headteacher Jane Applin to discuss the developments and achievements at the school, including the amalgamation with Fort Hill School.

Mrs Miller also met members of the school council representing all year groups for a 'lively' Q and A session that spanned topics including education and healthcare in Basingstoke.

She said: "I was pleased to hear about how things are going as an amalgamated school. I was also glad to hear about this summer's very good set of GCSE results, as well as plans for the future. I very much enjoyed meeting with the student council, who had some excellent questions for me and we had a very lively discussion."

At Fort Hill, she had the chance



Maria Miller MP met prefects from Fort Hill School

to speak to the Year 11 group who are completing their GCSE studies.

The students spoke about their experience of being a small group at the Fort Hill site, and also about their aspirations for the future.

A public consultation into the future of Fort Hill School and a potential amalgamation with Cranbourne Business and Enterprise College was launched in January, after the former school had experienced a drop in pupils.

Crossrail 2 promises more, better journeys

By Eva Astreinidou

THOUSANDS of Basingstoke commuters could start experiencing improved journey times and less crowding on their journeys in a few years time.

Crossrail representatives and local partners met last week to highlight the benefits the new railway could bring to the area by the early 2030s.

The scheme will increase the capacity of morning peak time travel across central London to 270,000 more people daily, and could have wide-reaching impacts by easing congestion in places as far as Basingstoke.

Speaking at the event, Michèle Dix, managing director of Crossrail 2, said: "Crossrail 2 will have a dramatic effect on rail services between Hampshire and London.

"Although Crossrail 2 trains themselves will run out only as far as north Surrey, we know that it's a struggle for many Basingstoke rail commuters with lines into Waterloo among the most congested in the country.

"The new railway is designed to relieve such pressure, it will add an estimated 11,800 train seats every weekday morning peak across trains coming in from the South West.

"Crossrail 2 is an investment for the future that we need to start taking forward now."

At the event, members of the M3 Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) met representatives from Crossrail to see how the plans would benefit the area and help 'unlock' its economic potential.

Mike D'Alton Chairman of Enterprise M3 Transport Action Group said: "Enterprise M3 LEP area is one of the fastest growing regional economies in the UK and the continuation and consolidation of this growth will be underpinned by major investments in transport infrastructure.

"Residents and businesses will benefit through improved journey times, less crowding, and extended employment opportunities"

Running from nine stations in Surrey to three in Hertfordshire, Crossrail 2 will provide rail connections across London via twin underground tunnels.

Development of Crossrail 2 is ongoing, with construction scheduled to start in the early 2020s pending Government consent.

The new line is planned to become operational in the early 2030s.

The project is estimated to deliver a £150billion boost to the UK economy.

The M3 LEP works across 14 local authorities, including Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council, to increase jobs and maximise the number of businesses operating across the area.

News Bites

Festive fun for all

CHRISTMAS is just around the corner and Basingstoke has lots of exciting activities planned for the whole family.

Santa's Woodland walk and grotto at Festival Place will take centre stage from November 18 to December 24.

To book in advance visit www. bookfatherchristmas.co.uk/festivalplace.

The Santa Parade will also return at Festival Place on December 3 at 12pm with Santa leading a host of Christmassy characters on a march from Porchester Square to Festival Square.

A bit further afield, the Christmas lights switch-on will also take place in Tadley tomorrow.

Digital development

BASINGSTOKE Hackathon will return for its second year, showcasing local digital talent.

Teams of digital developers, entrepreneurs, hobbyists and students will come together to work on a project or idea of their choice this weekend.

The event will include all types of projects, from coding and hardware creation to getting the right team in place to develop a solid business idea.

The weekend will be kick-started at a launch event tomorrow at DeskLodge in Basing View where participants can meet, form teams and find out more about the weekend ahead.

To take part, register at www. meetup.com/thebasingstoketechscene.

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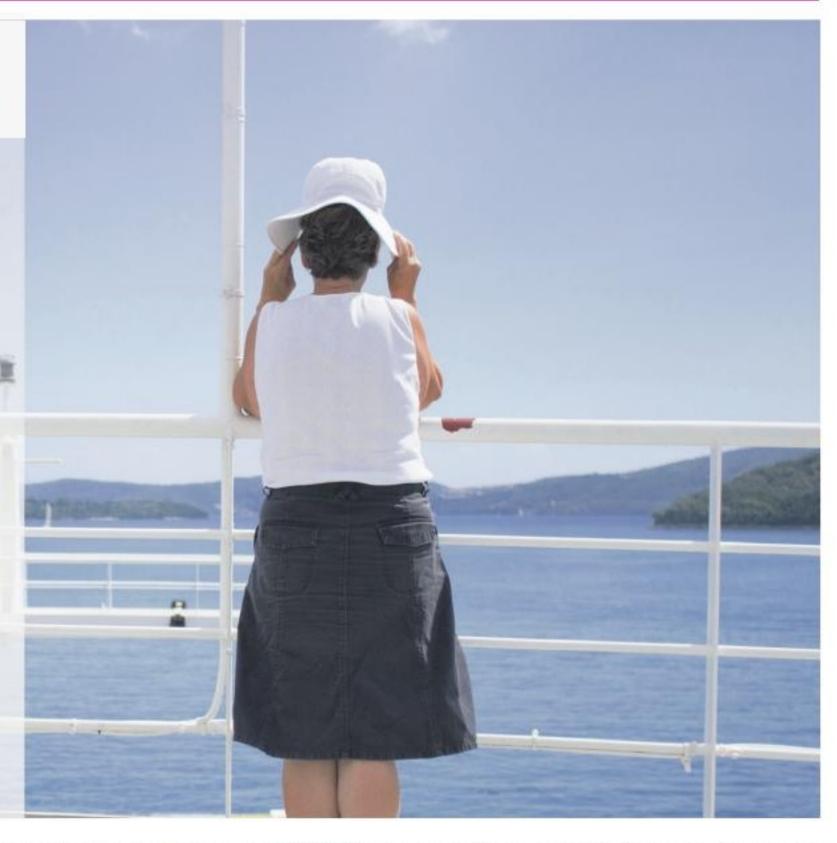
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PROPERTYWEEKLY

Is your home ready for winter?

First impressions count, and nothing is more likely to dampen interest from prospective buyers or tenants, than walking into a freezing cold home, with a leaky radiator or worse, a draught!

Here are three quick fixes sellers and landlords can make to avoid some of the most common winter property turn-offs...

Don't make a frosty first impression

It's always a good idea to have the heating on if you are expecting a viewing. Alongside untidy properties, cold and unwelcoming ones tend to leave last lasting first impression for all the wrong reasons!

Let there be light

As Christmas approaches, the nights are drawing in, and more and more viewings are taking place after sunset. Dark and poorly lit homes will immediately turn-off prospective buyers and tenants so it's important to ensure that both the exterior By Romans Group

and interior of the home is well-lit to showcase its full potential.

Clean the gutters

Before the cold weather well and truly takes hold, make sure you clear out your gutters, removing any leaves that could cause blocks and overflows.

Not only will this prevent any damage to the property, it also helps increase your home's kerb appeal.

Thinking about selling or letting your property this winter? Contact Romans on 01344 985 666 for an accurate sales or rental valuation or visit romans.co.uk.



Observer

Reader travel

HOTEL & TICKET PACKAGES



DIANA: HER FASHION STORY

AT KENSINGTON PALACE

Fridays, Saturdays & Sundays, March-December 2017

See this exhibition charting the fashion evolution of the late Diana, Princess of Wales, from the frills and pie-crust collars of her early days in the public eye to the elegant, sophisticated signature style of the nineties.

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- Day 2 morning admission ticket to Kensington Palace and gardens, including entrance to the 'Diana: Her Fashion Story' exhibition

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& THE GROSVENOR HOTEL

Fridays & Sundays, November & December 2017

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PRICE INCLUDES...

- Overnight stay at the 4 star Grosvenor Hotel with full English breakfast
- Timed admission ticket to the Kew Gardens Illuminated Trail

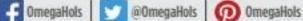
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ENTERTAINMENT & LEISURE

Not just winter chill in the air

By Josh Cox

WHO will feel The Ghost's Touch in the chilling tale by Wilkie Collins which comes to The Haymarket at the end of the month?

The play stars seasoned actors Mark Homer as Stephen Rayburn and Terri Dwyer as the mysterious Mrs Zant.

Widower Rayburn's young daughter Lucy runs back to him from the woods in Kensington Gardens. He can see that she's frightened. "Is it the dog?" he asks. "It's not the dog," she answers. "It's the lady...I think she might be mad!"

The ghostly woman Rayburn meets leads him into a web of lust and revenge that reaches out from beyond the grave, but who will feel the ghost's touch?

Mark Homer is best known for his role as Tony Hills in EastEnders, while he has also appeared in Casualty and Silent Witness and most recently The Dumping Ground.

He has attracted excellent reviews in theatre group Rumpus's The Signalman, The Pit and The Pendulum and Neville's Island.

with TV audiences from her appearances on Loose Women, 60 Minute



highly successful productions of Makeover and This Morning but she is no stranger to strong dramatic roles with credits including Law and Terri Dwyer is a firm favourite Order, Holby City and Hollyoaks on TV and Dial M For Murder on stage.

runs form November 29 to December 2 are priced between £19 and £22, with discounts available for over 65s, under 16s and full-time students.

There is also a special post-show Tickets for The Ghost's Touch which talk and question and answer session

after the matinee performance on December 2.

For more information or to book tickets, call the Anvil Arts box office on 01256 844244, or visit the website anvilarts.org.uk.

Five play folk music

MUSIC: Kindred Spirit, a five-piece folk band will be gigging at The Cedars in Binsted this Saturday.

The group play band leader and vocalist Elaine Samuels' original compositions. She is joined by a lead and bass guitar, a violin, flute or sax and drums.

The band will play from 9pm till 11.30pm, with free entry.

Ninjas to rock pub

MUSIC: The Wheatsheaf in Alton will play host to The Ninja Squirrels as they put on a free gig on Saturday from 9pm.

The Ninja Squirrels are a four piece indie, rock and pop covers

The band have been playing together for more than seven years and cover a variety of well known, but not over played, classics.

Get Sectioned

MUSIC: Head down to The Swan in Sherborne St John this Saturday for an evening of covers performed by Section8, a five-piece band.

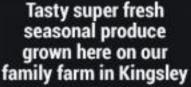
The group have more than 15 years of experience and cover a wide range of songs aimed to get the audience on the dance floor.

The free gig starts at 9pm.



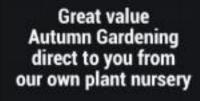
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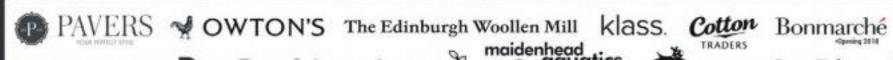
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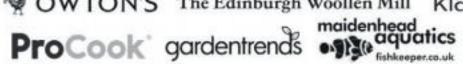


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ENTERTAINMENT & LEISURE

Take the last train with blues duo

By Josh Cox

REDISCOVER the genius of blues masters Brownie McGhee and Sonny Terry, as Guy Davis and Fabrizio Poggi bring you an evening inspired by these two musical greats at The Forge on Saturday.

Heavily influenced by the storytelling style and harmonica technique of Sonny Terry, Guy Davis has spent his career carrying his message of the blues around the world, earning him the title 'Ambassador of the blues'.

Davis once said: "I like antiques and old things, old places, that still have the dust of those who've gone before us lying upon them."

Blowing that dust off just enough to see its beauty is something Guy has excelled at for more than 20 years of songwriting and performing.

It's no wonder his reverence for the music of the Blues Masters who've gone before him has been evident in every album he's ever recorded or concert he's given.

Guy's new album Sonny & Brownie's Last Train - A Look Back at Brownie McGhee and Sonny Terry is an homage to these two hugely influential artists, not only on Guy's career, Guy collaborates with and produced but to thousands of musicians around the world. One such artist is the Italian harmonica ace, Fabrizio Poggi, who



this recording.

Davis and Poggi have a relationship

and in the United States.

going back a decade in which they have Poggi are priced at £15; over 65s, under 844244, or visit anvilarts.org.uk.

performed together on tour in Europe 16s and full-time student tickets cost £13. To book or for more information, Tickets for Guy Davis and Fabrizio call the Anvil Arts box office on 01256

On the decks

MUSIC: One of Basingstoke's top DJs Leroy Wilson will be spinning tunes and taking requests at The Academy in Basingstoke on Sat-

Entry for members is free, otherwise it's £10 in advance or £12 on the door. The doors will open from 8pm with last entry at 10pm.

King of rock 'n' roll

MUSIC: An outstanding Elvis tribute act will be performing at Tangs Chinese Restaurant in Basingstoke on Wednesday 29 November.

Portraying Elvis on the night will be entertainer Gary Roman, who has been praised by the likes of Ewan Mcgregor and Tom Hanks.

The free gig starts at 8:15pm.

Feeling pumped

MUSIC: The dynamic duo NRG will be putting on their usual high energy performance at The Raven in Hook on December 1.

Two vocals, an acoustic and an electric guitar make up the atmosphere and sound of NRG. The band cover artists such as Simon & Garfunkel, Cat Stevens, Bob Dylan, The Eagles, Dire Straits and Pink Floyd. With no entry fee, this gig starts

at 9pm.

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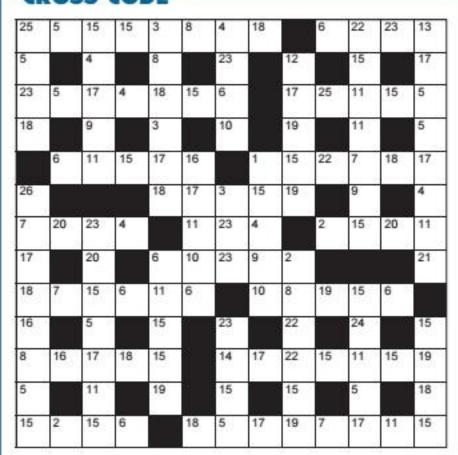
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our weekly puzzle challenge

CROSS CODE



ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPORSTUVWXYZ

1	2	3	4	5 R	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18 G	19	20	21	22	²³ O	24	25	26

Each number in our Cross Code grid represents a different letter of the alphabet. You have three letters in the control grid to start you off. Enter them in the appropriate squares in the main grid, then use your knowledge of words to work out which letters should go in the missing squares.

As you get the letters, fill in other squares with the same number in the main grid and control grid. Check off the alphabetical list of letters as you identify them.

5

3

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3

MAGIC SQUARE

5

6

3

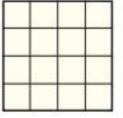
SUDOKU

8

Easy

INCOHERENT GHOSTS

Using all 16 letters of the phrase above, form four words each of four letters which will fit in the grid to form a magic square in which the words can be read both horizontally and vertically.



Each row and each column must contain the numbers 1 to 9, and so must each 3 x 3 box.

Quiz Challenge

- What is the second largest island by area in the Mediterranean Sea after Sicily?
- 2. What achievement in office by Lord John Russell in 1849, was not repeated by any Prime Minister until Tony Blair in 2000?
- 3. By what name is glandular fever sometimes known because it is transmitted in the saliva of adolescents?
- 4. Which comedian's real name was David Tynan O'Mahoney?
- 5. Who is the actress mother of Ben 10. Which then 72-year old Fogle, who played Gilda in the 1966 film Alfie?

M

NONAGRAM

0

make from this

I

How many words of four

letters or more can you

Nonagram? Each word

and each letter may be

used only once. At least

one word using all nine

27 Good; 32 Very Good;

Any word found in the Concise

eligible with the following

third person singular verbs;

Oxford Dictionary (Tenth Edition) is

exceptions: proper nouns; plural

hyphenated words; contractions

and abbreviations; vulgar slang

words; variant spellings of the

same word (where another variant

9

6

CRYPTIC CROSSWORD:

5

6

snptract; multiply.

left - add; divide;

Clockwise from top

Total: 2.

8

nouns, pronouns and possessives;

letters can be found.

Guidelines:

38 Excellent.

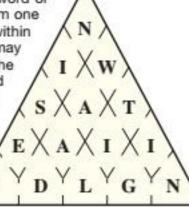
is also eligible).

must use the central letter,

- Which actor played Bernard 'Horrible' Ives, an unpleasant sneaky prisoner in TV's Porridge?
- 7. Which James Taylor song has the lyric "I've seen sunny days that I thought would never end"?
- 8. Walton-on-the-Naze and Clacton-on-Sea are seaside towns in which county?
- 9. A skipjack is a member of which fish family?
- actress posed for the cover of the 2007 Pirelli calendar?

WORD PYRAMID

Spell out a 15-letter word or phrase by moving from one chamber to another within the pyramid. You may only enter each of the chambers once and may only proceed through openings in the walls. The first letter may appear in any



FIVE ALIVE

chamber.



5

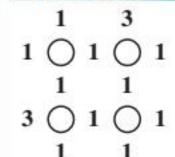
6

3

miniature fivesquare crosswords using the same grid - but the letters have been mixed up. You have to work out which letters belong to which crossword.

Here are two

EOUALISER



Place the four signs (add, subtract, multiply, divide) one in each circle so that the total of each across and down line is the same. Perform the first calculation in each line first and ignore the mathematical law which says you should always perform division and multiplication before addition and subtraction.

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9 4 9 8 8 1 1 6 2

8 7 3 6 5 2 4 1 9

3 2 9 8 1 7 8 6 4

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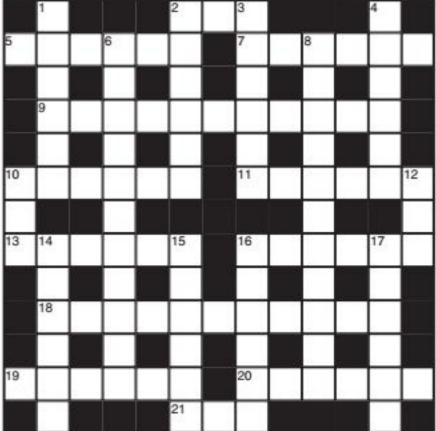
CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 2. Volatile lady (3)
- 5. It is not hard to put one's head on it (6)
- 7. Mean to finish in time at first (6)
- 9. Rest which resulted from a prick on the thumb? (6,5)
- 10. Smooth language (6)
- 11. Gloomy, more so after a fashion (6)
- 13. Celtic chap, the same, takes posh girl (6)
- 16. Change made by Greek
- character at gallery (6) 18. Eat chocs and ham.

suffering pain (11)

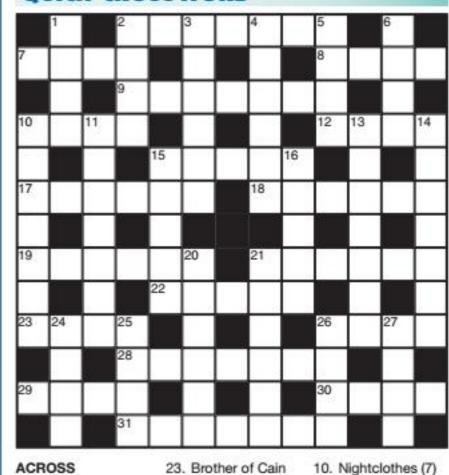
- 19. Behind a showy flower up to a point (6)
- 20. Romantically involved when at home with nothing (2,4)
- 21. Jack in at the start (3)



DOWN

- 1. Mean not to remain in another abominable Spanish port (6)
- 2. Point to the crone interfering with electric current perhaps (6)
- So slim in a way and flexible (6)
- Takes pot shots at birds (6)
- First part on stage (7,4) 8. Tactile hero about to
- become speculative (11)
- Walk quietly home (3) 12. Before the poet says it (3)
- 14. Preoccupy bosses in trouble (6)
- Acquired knowledge about broken antler (6)
- 16. Old health official will dry the goat's wool (6)
- 17. Most strikes occur at this time (6)

OUICK CROSSWORD



SOLUTIONS

6

verso; viper; vireo; visor; vomer. brove; rime; ripe; rise; rive; romp; rope; bjet: bjeuz: bjeuus: bote: boset: more; mover; osier; over; peri; perm; ris; isomer; mire; miser; moire; moper; MARDANON:

Down - Visit; Giant; Nerve. (2) Across – Vegan; Stair; Title. Down - Leaps; Repro; Clean. (1) Across – Lyric; Apple; Shown. FIVE ALIVE:

20 Easter; 21 Phobic; 24 Edam; 25 Holm; 26 Trlo; 27 Miff. Pylamas; 11 Servant; 13 Addenda; 14 Treadle; 15 Fiery; 16 Rivet; sperm; spire; spore; verism; verismo; Down - 1 Peso; 2 Hush; 3 Noggin; 4 Rotter; 5 Dodo; 6 Plus; 10 rose; rove; servo; simper; sire; sore; Seth; 26 Tame; 28 October; 29 Mall; 30 Hty; 31 Morocco. 15 Fiver; 17 Jerkin; 18 Riddle; 19 Meagre; 21 Penned; 22 Yacht; 23 prism; proem; promise; prose; Across - 2 Hundred; 7 Beau; 8 Oily; 9 Sighted; 10 Posh; 12 Oast; prime; prime;

Theoretical; 10 Pad; 12 Ere; 14 Obsess; 15 Learnt; 16 Mohair; 17 emir; improve; improve; IMPROVISE; Down - 1 Bilbao; 2 Switch; 3 Lissom; 4 Snipes; 6 Leading role; 8 JOVE: 21 Tar. Morose; 13 Dougal; 16 Mutate; 18 Stomachache; 19 Astem; 20 In Across - 2 Sal; 5 Pillow; 7 Intend; 9 Beauty sleep; 10 Polish; 11

EQUALISER: 9 3 9 2 1 7 8 4 6 1 2 9 8 9 6 8 4 7 Ladies-in-waiting. 8 4 3 6 5 2 1 9 WORD PYRAMID: 3 4 5 9 2 1 7 6 8 9 8 6 9 1 7 4 8 9 9 2 1 8 7 9 4 6 8 8 9 2 9 8 7 2 1 6 -Buot 8 2 1 7 8 8 4 9 3 2 4 1 7 9 8 8 8 8 rest; echo; shin; MAGIC SQUARE: HARD SUDOKU EASY SUDOKU d 58 23 54 20 H 0 n S

7 2 8 1 8 8 D Z

2 8 8 6 4 9 9 1 4

1 9 7 8 4 3 5 8 2 6

1 6 2 8 9 4 6 3 7

9 Tuna; 10 Sophia Loren.

21. Wrote (6) 22. Sailing vessel (5)

2. Century (7)

7. Dandy (4)

8. Unctuous (4)

Upper-class

(inf.) (4)

Hops kiln (4)

15. English bank

Puzzle (6)

19. Scanty (6)

note (inf.) (5)

Short jacket (6)

9. Able to see (7)

Brother of Cain and Abel (4)

26. Domesticate (4)

28. Month (7) 29. Shopping area (4)

30. Risky (inf.) (4) North African

country (7) DOWN

Mexican dollar (4)

2. Quieten (4)

Measure of

drink (6)

4. Cad (6) Extinct bird (4)

6. In addition (4)

16. Bolt (5) Christian festival (6)

21. Having an abnormal fear (6) 24. Dutch cheese (4)

Nightclothes (7)

Appendices (7)

15. Impassioned (5)

Foot lever (7)

11. Retainer (7)

25. Islet or flood

plain (4)

26. Threesome (4)

27. Irritate slightly (inf.) (4)

QUIZ CHALLENGE: 1 Sardinia; 2 Fathered a child; 3 Kissing disease; 4 Dave Allen; 5 Julia Foster; 6 Ken Jones; 7 Fire and Rain; 8 Essex;



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Competition

WIN a family ticket to Peter Pan!

Peter Pan flies in to The Anvil from Thursday 14 December to Sunday 7 January, so this Christmas take the second star to the right and fly far away takes the title role of Peter Pan. Sarah to Neverland.

Follow Wendy, John and Michael Darling as they meet Tiger Lily and the Indians, the Lost Boys, and the impish Tinker Bell. Boo and hiss as the evil Captain Hook, his comic sidekick Smee, and his motley pirate crew take on the children - but beware of the Petrovna is Tinker Bell, and Jenny crocodile that ticks!

Andrew Agnew, probably best known as the crime-busting, nature-loving PC M.I. High for CBBC. Plum in the two times BAFTA Awardwinning Balamory (CBeebies), plays The Nitwits complete the cast as the Smee as well as the taking on the role of Director.

Gary Turner, probably best remembered for playing Carlos Diaz in depending on performance (all tickets Emmerdale, makes a welcome return as Captain Hook, a role he has played twice at The Anvil, in 2006 and 2011.

Star of the West End Jessica Punch

Closing date: Sunday, Dec 10

Louise Day returns to The Anvil, this year as Mrs Darling. Sarah has starred in many pantomimes at The Anvil as well as choreographed the stunning dance routines that are such a huge part of the productions. Laura Harrison is Tiger Lily, Helen Huxley-Golden is Wendy. Younger readers may recognise Jenny from

Fast-moving comedy acrobats madcap Pirate Crew causing hilarious havoc where ever they go. .

Ticket prices for Peter Pan vary include a £2 booking fee). Concessions are available depending on performance. Family tickets, schools and group rates are available on selected

performances.

For more information, or to book your tickets, contact the Anvil Arts box office on 01256 844244 or visit the website anvilarts.org.uk

Win a family ticket!

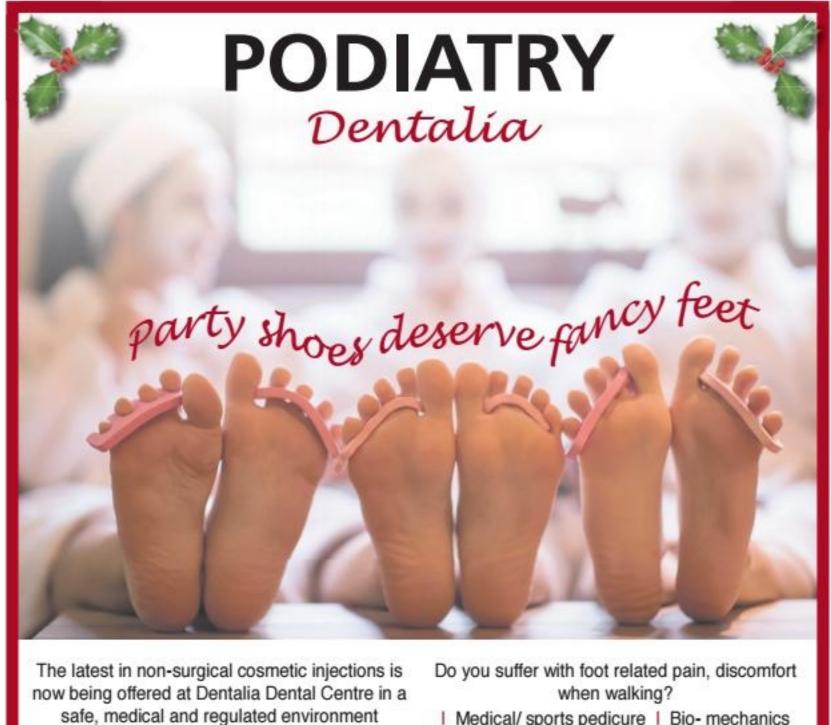
We have two family tickets to give away and to be in with a chance of winning one just answer the following simple question:

Q: Why does the crocodile tick?



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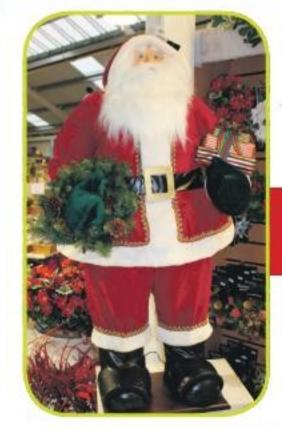
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Ford Fiesta Titanium 1.0 EcoBoost

Modern day Fiesta creating history

By Tony Yates

BACK when I was nipper, my father bought my mother a brand new Ford Fiesta XR2 – and I remember thinking at the time how magnificent it looked parked all white and sexy on our drive. I also remember thinking that one day I will have such a car on my own drive.

Well, if we fast forward 30 odd years
- you will still find that exact same
XR2 tucked away in the garage at my
family home.

Yes, the exact same car my mother had. And the reason for this is simple – as a family, we all loved that little Fiesta so much, that none of us ever wanted to part with it, so we never did.

Of course, that's a lovely story I hear you shout, but why?

Well, I'm not sure – all I know is the little Fiesta melted our hearts and I would like to think that in another 30-40 years from now, the model you see before you today in this review will have its own little part in history.



What's not to like about the new Ford Fiesta Titanium 1.0 EcoBoost?

Power & efficiency

This, of course, neatly introduces you to this week's road test of the wonderful little Fiesta 'Titanium'. My test car was powered by a1.0-litre EcoBoost turbocharged petrol engine with 170Nm of Torque - 125PS of Ford Power, a 0-62

time of around 9.9 seconds and a top speed of around121mph.

At first, I expected the little Fiesta to sound wheezy because of its 1.0 Eco Boost engine, but to be honest - I was wrong. When you rev it hard it sounds almost 'racy'. Of course, you may all be thinking that a small engine equals

small power? Well not necessarily so. Then again, the Fiesta won't break the sound barrier either, but what it will do is move you along at a spirited pace. I also quite like how the little Eco Boost performs out on the open road too. So, when you consider its small size, that's quite staggering - truth be told.

On the road

As with all of Ford's small ecowarriors – it changes direction like it's on rails and it holds the road well, but it does feel a little bouncy. I did, however, find the little Fiesta a joy to drive no matter what the road conditions were doing beneath me. The brakes also felt good and firm too. And, as for the suspension - it actually absorbed England's bumpy roads really well, although as I said earlier - it was a little on the bouncy side, but in a fun way.

Safety & technology

Some of the kit you get on the 'Tita-

nium' model includes; Ford SYNC 3 Navigation with 8" touchscreen, DAB radio, keyless start with Ford Power button, rain sensing wipers, Electronic Stability Program (ESP) Hill Start Assist, remote central locking, Tyre Pressure Monitoring System, Ford easy fuel, and a quickclear heated windscreen.

Plus, 16" 10-spoke alloy wheels, Halogen projector headlamps with LED daytime running lights, front fog lamps with cornering lights, LED night signature to rear lights, cruise control and a whole host of additional extras not mentioned here.

To sum up

I am going to finish it here, but, I'm going to give the Fiesta four stars in this test, not only because I like how it looks on the outside, but also because I believe it's worth taking a look at because after all –it's a Ford Fiesta. What's not to like about that!

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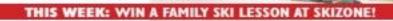
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Bison steal win from Raiders

By George Welch

NETMINDER Dean Skinns recorded his 11th shut out of the season as Basingstoke Bison moved up to second spot after a 6-0 win over the visiting London Raiders.

The shot stopper denied all 19 shots he faced as the Herd collected their 10th straight league win on Sunday.

Bison netted twice in each period to cruise to victory at the Planet Ice Arena.

Aaron Connolly (8 minutes) and Tomas Karpov (12) got Doug Sheppard's side up and running early on before Roman Malinik (29) and Dan Davies (35) added a couple more in the middle third.

Davies and Grant Rounding rounded off the win with goals 38 seconds apart on 53 minutes.

The win came a day after Bison missed the opportunity of going top of their Autumn Cup with a penalty shoot-out defeat at Peterborough Phantoms.

The visiting Herd came from a goal

behind to lead 3-1 thanks to goals from Rounding, Connolly and Malinik.

Peterborough levelled the score with less than two minutes to go.

With no more goals, the game went into overtime, which once again failed to split the teams.

Malinik missed the decisive penalty and the Phantoms ran out 4-3 winners.

After the weekend, head coach Doug Sheppard said: "That was our most complete weekend of the season so far.

"I'm really pleased with the effort and execution. We played a really solid 125 minutes of hockey and I thought we were unlucky not to get the result on Saturday.

"I thought we carried on our hard work on Sunday and got the result we deserved reaching 10 straight league wins."

He added: "It's a real shame we didn't get the result on Saturday. We took loads of fans with us on Saturday and had great support and it would have been nice to reward them with a win."



Dean Skinns in action for Basingstoke Bison earlier this month Picture: grantkingphotography.com

Bison host Peterborough in the final Autumn Cup game on December 9 to decide who wins the group.

Coming up next for the Herd though is a National Cup home match against Bracknell Bees on Saturday.

Sport Bites

Weather stops play

FOOTBALL: Both Basingstoke Town Ladies' first and reserve side matches were called off on Sunday.

Bad weather meant the first team's trip to Plymouth Argyle Ladies in the first round of the SSE Women's FA Cup and the second string's visit to Horndean Ladies in the Intermediate Cup couldn't go ahead.

The Dragons are due to travel to Plymouth for a league clash on Sunday.

Fire extinguish Buffs

ICE HOCKEY: A disappointing 6-2 home defeat to Cardiff Fire on Saturday has seen Basingstoke Buffalo slip a place in the NIHL South 2 (Wilkinson) league.

The Buffs, who won their previous two matches, were easily beaten by their visitors, who had commanded a 4-0 lead in the final period.

Neil Leary (56 minutes) and Cameron Buckle (59) scored late on for Stoke in a match they will want to

They have a week off before travelling to Peterborough Phantoms (2nd) on December 2.

FOOTBALL: Second placed Tadley Cavella kept the pressure on the league leaders with their second away win in a row.

Tadley won 3-0 at bottom club Folland Sports on Saturday while Whitchurch, who host leaders Andover New Street tomorrow (Friday), lost 4-0 at

If Whitchurch stop Andover winning, Hampshire neighbours Tadley can go top of Wessex League First Division with a win at home to Romsey Town (4th) on Saturday.

Home loss sends Row tumbling out of play-off places Tadley apply pressure

THERE will be no weekend game for Hartley Wintney as their wait to discover their FA Trophy third qualifying round opponents continues.

The Row were due to visit either Farnborough or Banbury United on Saturday but will now have to wait until then to find out their next round opposition.

They will play the victors on Tuesday, meaning their home league match against Ashford Town has been postponed.

Evo-Stik Southern Premier sides Farnborough and Banbury played out a 3-3 draw at Farnborough on November 11 but the replay in Oxfordshire three days later was postponed when visiting players got stuck in traffic.

The Row slipped out of the Evo-Stik South East play-offs - the tier below next week's opponents - following a 2-1 home defeat against automatic promotion hopefuls Cambridge City on Saturday.

Hartley struggled to get the better of two giant and experienced City centre backs, but fashioned a chance for Jack French. The former Fleet Town man's parting shot brought a good save from Niall Conroy in the City goal.

But it was the visitors who had more luck at the other end.

Tom Knowles gave Cambridge the lead from the spot shortly after when a Hartley defender handled the ball. The hosts responded well and on

28 minutes a shot from distance from French forced Conroy into a save.

The Row went on to have a good spell and put the City defence under

Although they failed to create much, their efforts were rewarded two minutes before half time when Rowan Vine stuck a deflected volley into the

However, City pressure told in the second period and the winner came on 54 minutes when the unmarked Mason Spence powered his header

The Row, who slipped from fourth to seventh following Tuesday's matches, had the chance to reclaim their playoff spot when they travelled to Aylesbury United last night (Wednesday).

After Tuesday's FA Trophy game, Hartley return to league action with a trip to AFC Rushden & Diamonds on December 2.

Back in action

RUGBY: Basingstoke RFC are back in London First Division action this weekend after enjoying a weekend off.

The league's bottom side travel to Teddington, who have lost their last three matches, on Saturday.

Basingstoke's last outing was a 40-0 defeat at Petersfield on November 11. They have lost all nine games so far this season and have a solitary point to their name.

Have your say online









No disappointment for Rose over Dubai

JUSTIN Rose's torrid finish on the final day of the European Tour season at the DP World Tour Championship crowned Tommy Fleetwood the Race to Dubai champion.

The north Hampshire golfer, who came unstuck over the final seven holes, looked in complete control of the tournament and was cruising at three-under for the day after 11 holes.

He bogeyed three of the next five to slip out of the top-five position he needed to win the Race to Dubai.

With Fleetwood looking on from the clubhouse after a scrappy 74 left him out of the top 20 on 11-under, Rose needed to hole from the front fringe for eagle at the 72nd hole to snatch the Harry Vardon Trophy.

But his 80ft effort drifted left of the target and, although he holed for birdie, a four-way share of fourth place was not enough to displace Fleetwood from the top of the standings.

Rose graciously paid tribute to Race to Dubai champion Fleetwood.

Speaking to Sky Sports he said: "He did really well. He fought hard for it, he's earned it, he deserves it and he's had a great year.

"That's what the Race to Dubai is all about - it's not about a week or nine holes, it's about how you play over a year. He's done brilliantly and deserves it."

He added: "I'm not overly disappointed. I played great golf at the end of the year, and shot two-under par on a tricky day [so] I'm not going to put myself over the grill on it."



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Inside: Bison charge to second with 6-0 win





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Rose loses Race to Dubai in final round meltdown

Row lose ground in play-off spots

'Stoke suffer first home defeat in nine as King's Lynn triumph

Missed chances for equaliser

By George Welch

BASINGSTOKE Town surrendered their impressive home record on Saturday, as table toppers King's Lynn became the first team to leave the Camrose with maximum points since Frome on the opening day of the season.

The Dragons came from behind but a first half penalty and a second half header earned the Linnets a 2-1 win, in a game that could have gone either way.

However, the Norfolk outfit were dominant in the first half and should have been more than a goal to the good at the break.

The deserved goal came on 25 minutes when Marcus Johnson-Schuster fouled Ryan Hawkins just in the area.

Michael Clunan took responsibility and scored from the penalty spot to give the away side the lead.

This came after Colm McAdden in the 'Stoke goal kept out a number of Lynn chances.

The opener failed to kick Basingstoke into action and they should have fallen further behind three minutes later when a great strike from Hawkins crashed back off the post.

The Dragons came out in the sec-

ond half with fire in their belly – and they were level four minutes after the restart.

Callum Bunting fired them level after Sam Argent pushed the ball into his path having out jumped the King's Lynn keeper.

Livid away players and supporters contested the decision, but the goal stood after the referee deemed Argent innocent of impinging Alex Street

It wasn't to matter though as parity lasted a mere three minutes.

Defender Sam Gaughran was King's Lynn's hero as he poked the ball home for the winner after Michael Gash's shot crashed off the crossbar.

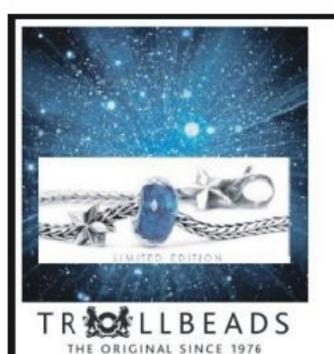
Basingstoke were restricted to long-range efforts but were presented with the best two chances of the game.

Shane Hollamby fired a left footed volley just wide of the target before the dangerous Ben Wright flashed another volley just the wrong side of the upright.

But an equaliser wasn't forthcoming and Basingstoke suffered their first home defeat in nine games.

Terry Brown's side are away at St Neots Town on Saturday and host Weymouth on Tuesday.





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